Reading skills practice: Travel guide – exercises

Look at this guide for tourists visiting California, then do the exercises to improve your reading skills.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

1……..	a gym	a.	a building where people have to live as a punishment for a crime
2……..	a pier	b.	a bridge that is suspended from cables that are attached to towers
3……..	a suspension bridge	c.	a type of ride at an amusement park, like a fast train on tracks that curve, and go from very high to very low
4……..	a prison	d.	a structure that goes into water for people to walk on, often to take a boat
5……..	rides	e.	a health club or a large room with exercise machines
6……..	a rollercoaster	f.	mechanical attractions at an amusement park, for example a rollercoaster or big wheel

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Discover America

California

1 San Francisco

Fisherman's Wharf is a historic marketplace on the seafront with trendy restaurants, shops and street performers. Visit Ghirardelli Square, home to the amazing Ghirardelli Ice Cream and Chocolate Shop, and Pier 39, a lively marketplace with shops, restaurants and music. From here you can take a cruise round the Bay.

2 Golden Gate Bridge

Connecting San Francisco and Marin County, this is the largest suspension bridge in the world and one of the most famous Californian landmarks. As you cross the 4200-ft bridge below the famous orange towers, you'll enjoy awesome views of the entire Bay Area.

3 Alcatraz Island

Once a high-security prison, Alcatraz Island is one of the Bay Area's most interesting tourist attractions. Take the ferry from Pier 41 and visit the dark cell blocks that were home to America's most wanted criminals.

4 Santa Cruz

Go to the Santa Cruz Surfing Museum, which is in a lighthouse, and see classic boards including one eaten by a shark – the surfer survived! Next stop, the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk for a ride on the Giant Dipper rollercoaster.

5 Venice Beach

This is where skateboarding started, so you must visit the famous skate park right on the beach. Also watch the bodybuilders at Muscle Beach Gym, which is where Arnold Schwarzenegger started his career.

7 Los Angeles

Have you ever wanted to record yourself? Now you can at the fascinating Grammy Museum. You can also learn how to dance like Michael Jackson, and find out about the links between blues and rap.

6 Hollywood

You can stand in the footprints of Johnny Depp at Grauman's Chinese Theatre and then meet his strangely accurate wax model, along with Hugh Jackman, Lance Armstrong, and Brad and Angelina, all at Madame Tussauds Hollywood. Discover how films are made at the working movie studio at Universal Studios Hollywood, where there are also exciting park rides and shows.

8 Disneyland

One of the most magical places in the world, Disneyland Park has hundreds of rides such as Space Mountain, Indiana Jones Adventure, Matterhorn and Pirates of the Caribbean. A day in Disneyland is a day you will never forget!

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1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

1.	Fisherman's Wharf, Ghirardelli Square and Pier 39 are all in San Francisco.	*True*	*False*
2.	The Golden Gate Bridge is the shortest suspension bridge in the world.	*True*	*False*
3.	Alcatraz is still a prison today.	*True*	*False*
4.	You can see a surfboard damaged in a shark attack in the museum in Santa Cruz.	*True*	*False*
5.	Ice skating is a popular activity on Venice Beach.	*True*	*False*
6.	You can meet real film stars at Madame Tussauds in Hollywood.	*True*	*False*
7.	The Grammy Museum in Los Angeles is dedicated to music and dance.	*True*	*False*
8.	Space Mountain is the name of one of the hotels in Disneyland.	*True*	*False*

2. Check your understanding: matching

Match the person with the place they would enjoy most. Write a recommendation for them in the box.

Santa Cruz Surfing Museum	San Francisco	Golden Gate Bridge
Madame Tussauds Hollywood	Grammy Museum	Alcatraz Island

		Recommended place to visit
1.	'I love ferry rides. They're so much fun. I also like visiting places with an interesting and unusual history.'	……..
2.	'I'd love to have my photo taken with all my favourite film stars!'	……..
3.	'I really want to go on some exciting rides. I've just taken up surfing too so I'd like to learn more about that.'	……..
4.	'I'm a keen photographer so I want to go to the place with the best views.'	……..
5.	'When I'm on holiday, two things are most important for me: great shopping and great food.'	……..
6.	'I'm a music lover and my dream is to record a song.'	……..

Discussion
Which place in California would you like to visit?

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